

FEBRUARY 2020

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



FEBRUARY MEETING

At the last meeting, we had over 20 people in attendance. Wow! We seem to be growing! And the restaurant was nice (no loud birthday parties next to us). The HPARC voted to continue holding meetings at J&S Cafeteria for the future. Please tell the cashier as you go through the line that you are with the HPARC. This helps us retain the room and not pay for its use. Thanks.

For the February meeting, David Macchiarolo will give us an update on FT8.

Last month David gave a program on NanoVNA, a \$60 vec-

tor network analyzer.

Mark Pegram, KX4PZ, joined the HPARC at the January meeting. Mark was in attendance with his wife, Robyn. They live in Kernersville. I forgot to mention that Gordon Saunders, KW4CZ, joined at the December meeting. Gordon lives in Greensboro. I believe we already have another Ham who has filled out a member application, so I will wait until after the next meeting to send an updated roster.

While the club meetings seem to be growing, the Saturday morning get-togethers seem to be the same old

crowd. If you can pry yourself out of the bed Saturday morning, we would love to have you join us at Biscuitville on South Main (across from Walmart). This coming Saturday will be a Hamfest weekend, so expect a small crowd.

Another note on the club meetings, J&S Cafeteria closes at 8:00 pm. This is usually not a problem for us, but I thought I would mention it and accordingly change the "eat" time listed in this newsletter to 6:00 pm. Meeting still at 7:00 pm.

Hope to see you at the club meeting and/or breakfast.

VOLUNTEER MONITOR PROGRAM COORDINATOR LOOKS FORWARD TO A POSITIVE 2020

In a holiday season message to ARRL leadership and to members of the new ARRL Volunteer Monitor (VM) program, its coordinator, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, expressed his gratitude to all involved for their contributions to getting the program off to a solid start in January.

"It will be a good year," Hollingsworth said. "We will have fun, you will enjoy it more than you probably think, and — thanks to the talent and generosity of one of our VMs — a

computer program will make your reporting much easier (there will be no need for bi-monthly reports!)," he wrote. "This is our opportunity to help Amateur Radio last another hundred years and to pay forward this wonderful avocation that joyfully occupies our lives. This could be our legacy if we do it with all the energy and devotion that characterized the Official Observer (OO) program for decades."

Hollingsworth said the suc-

cess of the OO program convinced the FCC to trust ARRL with the responsibilities now to be taken up by the Volunteer Monitor program. "Those of

Volunteer continued inside...

**HPARC Meeting
February 3, 2020**

**J&S Cafeteria,
5835 Samet Drive,
High Point, NC**

Meal at 6:00 p.m.
Business meeting at 7:00 p.m.

AMATEUR RADIO SHOULD BE A PROPER NOUN

OK, this has been bothering me for some time now. Maybe this is just my schooling from all those advanced English classes I took back in high school (thanks, Mrs. Mileski), but I think Amateur Radio should be capitalized. And Radio Operators as well as Ham Radio (as you see them capitalized here).

It irks me just a little bit

when I am searching for articles to put in the newsletter and the source I find has Amateur Radio or Ham Radio in small caps. Come on, Ham Radio Operators are important enough to qualify for a large caps, don't we? I am just a little tired of searching through my document looking for ham to replace with Ham and replacing amateur with Amateur.

Don't you feel as I do, that Ham Radio Operators and Amateur Radio are important enough to be classified as a proper noun. For example, a President of a club, or a country for that matter, would never be spelled with a small letter. Always the capital letter.

OK, OK, maybe I had just a little too much caffeine this morning. I'll go away quietly now.

ARRL'S NEW ON THE AIR MAGAZINE

The premiere issue of ARRL's On the Air magazine has left the printer and is on its way to member subscribers.

On the Air is the newest ARRL member benefit to help new licensees and beginner-to-intermediate radio communicators navigate the world of Amateur Radio. Eligible US-based members can elect to receive On the Air or QST magazine in print when they

join or when they renew their ARRL membership.

Delivered six times a year, the magazine will present articles and tips on selecting equipment, building projects, and getting involved in emergency communication. On the Air will also spotlight the experiences of those involved in public service communication and casual operating.

All members will be able to

access digital editions of On the Air magazine. The first digital issue of On the Air will be available beginning January 14, supported by a new version of ARRL's digital magazine app. With one app, members will be able to access On the Air and QST.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

January 9, 2020

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor

SIGN UP OR RENEW YOUR ARRL MEMBERSHIP

If you haven't signed up for the ARRL membership or need to renew your membership, do so through the club. By doing so, the club gets to keep \$15 of new memberships and \$2 of renewals.

As an ARRL member, you will benefit from getting the QST Magazine, online services such as QST online monthly digital edition and archive, product reviews, email forwarding,

e-newsletters, availability to Ham Radio equipment insurance, outgoing foreign QSL service, as well as supporting the ARRL which represents Ham Radio in Washington, plus many other services.

To start your ARRL membership or renew, make your checks out to the HPARC and see our treasurer. If you are renewing, bring your renewal form to get proper credit.

NEW/ UPGRADED HAMS

At the High Point W4VEC Ham Exam Session, there was one Ham to upgrade. That person was Erech Grunder, KM4IFU, of Raleigh who upgraded to General.

Congratulations Erech.

The HPARC Newsletter is published monthly by the High Point Amateur Radio Club (HPARC) for its members. The HPARC Newsletter serves as a source of information about Club activities, and general news items of interest to Amateur Radio. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the HPARC or its officers. Material in this newsletter may be reproduced provided the HPARC is properly credited.

Complimentary issues of the HPARC Newsletter are available by writing to the HPARC Newsletter at PO Box 4941, High Point, NC 27263 or emailing your request to w4ua@arrl.net. Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$12.00 a year. Contributions and letters/emails to the editor are welcome.

Membership is open in the HPARC to all licensed Amateur Radio operators. Membership is \$24.00 a year. Associate membership is also available to those who are interested in Amateur Radio but who do not currently hold a license. Associate membership is \$12.00 a year. Student membership is also available for \$12.00 a year.

The High Point Amateur Radio Club meets the first Monday of each month (except for holidays) at 6:30 p.m. at a local restaurant announced in the newsletter. The business meeting starts around 7:00 p.m. followed by a short program of interest. Family and visitors are welcome to attend. For more information, please call or email one of the HPARC officers listed in this newsletter.

...*Volunteer continued from cover*

you who are former OOs have an extra reason to be proud, and Amateur Radio is grateful to you more than you will ever know," Hollingsworth concluded. "Thank you. It will be a privilege to work with you this new year."

Approved by the ARRL Board of Directors in 2018, the Volunteer Monitor program supplants the venerable OO program. The VM program

represents a formal agreement between the FCC and ARRL in which volunteers trained and vetted by ARRL will monitor the airwaves and collect evidence that can be used to correct misconduct. The program also will recognize exemplary on-air operation, something not done during the OO program. Cases of flagrant violations will be referred to the FCC by ARRL for action in accordance with FCC guidelines.

The FCC proposed the new program in the wake of several FCC regional office closures and a reduction in field staff. It will give enforcement priority to cases developed by the Volunteer Monitor program without ARRL's having to refer cases through the FCC online complaint process.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

January 9, 2020

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor

TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASS

Rick Weinbaum, KK4RR, once again will be conducting a Technician class for those interested in getting their Ham Radio license.

The class will start February 27 and go through March 12 for four sessions (February

27, March 5, 12 and 19). Time will be 7:00-10:00 pm. Pre-registration is required. There is no cost for the class, but students are urged to enroll in HamTestOnline at a cost of \$24.99.

Exam date will be March 21,

2020 at 9:30 am.

The location will be The Radio Shack of the Tri-County Amateur Club, 331 Woodrow Avenue, High Point, NC 27262.

If interested, contact Rick Weinbaum, KK4RR, at (336) 687-8001 or KK4RR@mac.com.

2020 HPARC COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

In accordance to the HPARC ByLaws, the President shall appoint chairmen to the HPARC Committees by the second week of January. Those committee chairmen are as follows:

Education: Tom Evans, NA4U

Finance: Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ

Membership: Cliff Scronce, KC4ANQ

House: Bob Witt, KN4LMH

Program: David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF

Publicity: George McCormick, KN4JPB

Repeater: Lon Cecil, AA4LC

Special Activities: David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF

All committees, according to ByLaws, shall have no less than three members. At the February meeting, I expect these committee chairs to announce those on their respective committees.

DIVING DEEP FOR 'THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS RADIO'

What extremes would YOU go to get your hands on an old radio? If that radio is the wireless transmitter that operator Jack Phillips used on April 15, 1912 to summon help for the doomed RMS Titanic, those extremes likely include ocean depths. The United States company that has salvage rights to the wreckage is ready to make that trip - and soon. It's asking a U.S. District Court judge in Eastern Virginia to approve

an undersea expedition to the ship's interior to retrieve the Marconi transmitter that summoned the RMS Carpathia. It sent the message: "Come at once. We have struck a berg. It's a CQD, old man." In an agreement reached recently between the two countries, Britain and the United States both have the authority to grant or refuse permission for such missions.

RMS Titanic Inc., the U.S. company hoping to make the

trip, noted in its court papers that while the radio room itself has stayed somewhat unscathed, holes are forming in the deckhouse directly above it, placing the Marconi set in peril. The Washington Post said that Parks Stephenson, a Titanic expert, called the transmitter "the world's most famous radio."

—*Amateur Radio Newsline*,

Report 2204,

January 24th, 2020



High Point Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 4941
High Point, NC 27263

HPARC FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1 — Richmond, VA Frostfest | 23 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline |
| 2 — GROUNDHOG DAY | 29 — W4VEC High Point session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, Fellowship Bldg) |
| 2 — Super Bowl Sunday | |
| 3 — HPARC Club Meeting | |
| 12 — Lincoln's Birthday | |
| 14 — VALENTINE'S DAY | |
| 10-14 — School Club Roundup | |
| 15-16 — International DX – CW | |
| 17 — PRESIDENT'S DAY | |
| 22 — Washington's Birthday | |

BIRTHDAYS

Mark McMahan — February 7
 Katrina Worland — February 23

For W4VEC Test information, call or email David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, (336) 420-9424, aj4tf@arrl.net

2020 HPARC OFFICERS

Mark McMahan — President — 336-887-3039 — kb4mfp@arrl.net
 Tom Bertolino — Vice-President — 781-608-6186 — kb1p@arrl.net
 David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF — Secretary — 336-869-2894 — aj4tf@arrl.net
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 HPARC — www.w4ua.org — w4ua@arrl.net — 147.165 (67 Hz Tone) — 443.900

**Breakfast
 every Saturday**

—
8:00 a.m.

—
**Biscuitville,
 2709 S. Main St.**